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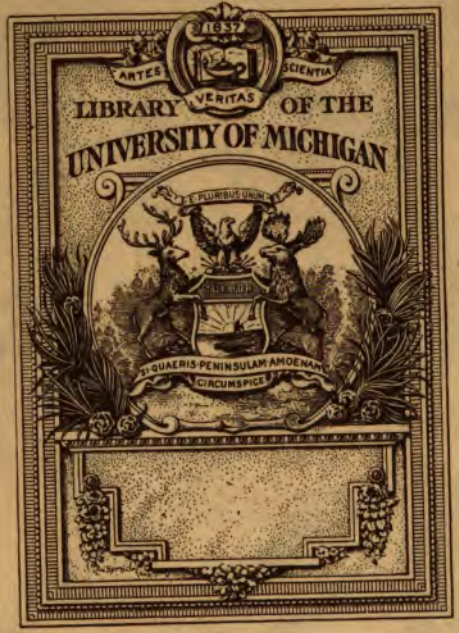
Chicago academy of sciences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THE CHARTER, CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

OF

The Chicago Academy of Sciences

ORGANIZED 1857
INCORPORATED 1859
INCORPORATED 1865
(SPECIAL ACT)

CHICAGO
THE CHICAGO ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
1900

THE CHICAGO ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.

In 1857, a society for the promotion of sciences was founded in Chicago, taking the name of "The Chicago Academy of Natural Sciences." The original members were Drs. J. V. Z. Blaney, N. S. Davis, Sr., J. W. Freer, D. Helmuth, H. A. Johnson, Edmund Andrews, H. Parker, F. Scammon, R. K. Swift, J. D. Webster, E. W. Blatchford, and H. W. Zimmerman, to which list a large number was soon added.

About $1,500 was subscribed, a room was taken in the "Saloon Building," corner of Clark and Lake Streets, a few cases were made, and a museum was begun. A few of the members worked at leisure hours upon the cabinet, and sustained monthly meetings.

In 1859 the society was incorporated under the provisions of a general law, by the name of "The Chicago Academy of Sciences."

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE CHICAGO ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.

Whereas, An Association has heretofore been formed in the City of Chicago, called "The Chicago Academy of Sciences," the object of which is the increase and diffusion of scientific knowledge by a museum, a library, by the reading and publication of original papers, and by such other suitable methods as shall from time to time be adopted;

Now, therefore, in order to encourage and promote the above declared objects of the said Association:

SECTION 1. *Be it Enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly;* That J. Young Scammon, George C. Walker, Horatio G. Loomis, Daniel Thompson, Edmund Aiken, Ezra B. McCagg, Eliphalet W. Blatchford, William E. Doggett, Robert Kennicott, Edmund Andrews, Hosmer A. Johnson, Oliver F. Fuller, James W. Freer, William Bross, James V. Z. Blaney, Belden F. Culver, and their associates and successors forever, are hereby declared and created a body corporate by the name and style of "The Chicago Academy of Sciences," and by that name shall have perpetual succession, shall be capable in law to contract and to be contracted with, sue and be sued, implead and be impleaded, within all courts of competent jurisdiction; may receive, acquire, and hold, real and personal property and effects, and may sell and dispose of the same at pleasure; may have a common seal, and alter the same at their pleasure; may make such constitutions, regulations, and by-laws as may be requisite for its government and for carrying out the objects of the Association, and not contrary to the laws of the land, and may alter the same at their pleasure.

182020

SECTION 2. The Constitution and By-Laws of said Association, now in operation, shall govern the corporation hereby created until regularly altered or repealed by the Association; and the present officers of said Association shall be officers of the corporation hereby created until their respective terms of office shall regularly expire or be vacated.

SECTION 3. All the money, property and effects of said, "The Chicago Academy of Sciences," shall be held and managed by, and the title thereto, as also the title to all the real estate owned or to be owned by said Academy of Sciences, shall be vested in the Board of Trustees, from time to time, being as provided in the Constitution of said Academy of Sciences; and all contracts and conveyances of said Academy of Sciences, to be binding, shall be executed by the President and Secretary of the Board of Trustees.

SECTION 4. This Act shall be a public Act, and shall be in force from and after its passage.

ALLEN C. FULLER,
Speaker of the House.
WM. BROSS,
Speaker of the Senate.

Approved Feb. 16th, 1865.
RICHARD J. OGLESBY.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, } ss.
STATE OF ILLINOIS. }

I, Sharon Tyndale, Secretary of State of the State of Illinois, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an enrolled law now on file in my office. In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of State, at the City of Springfield, this 7th day of March, A. D. 1865.

SHARON TYNDALE,
[L. S.] *Secretary of State.*

CONSTITUTION

February 27, 1900.

ARTICLE I.

This Association shall be known as THE CHICAGO ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.

ARTICLE II.

OBJECTS.

The objects of this Academy shall be the promotion and diffusion of scientific knowledge, by the reading and publication of original papers, by the maintenance of a library and a museum, and by other means calculated to arouse interest and stimulate scientific investigation.

ARTICLE III.

MEMBERSHIP.

1. The membership shall consist of *Active, Honorary, Corresponding and Life Members, Fellows and Patrons.*

2. ACTIVE MEMBERS.—Any person residing in Chicago or vicinity, who is in sympathy with the objects of this Academy, shall be eligible to active membership. Candidates shall make application in writing, endorsed by two members, to the Secretary, who shall refer the same to the Executive Board for consideration; said Board may, at their discretion, recommend to the Academy, at any regular meeting thereof, the election of the applicant as a member.

All persons elected to Associate Membership on or before April 1, 1900, shall be deemed Active Members.

3. HONORARY MEMBERS.—Persons eminent in science may be elected Honorary Members upon the nomination, in writing, of two members of the Academy, the recommendation of the Executive Board, and a three-fourths vote of the members present at a regular meeting. Honorary Members shall be exempt from the payment of fees and dues.

4. CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.—Persons not residing in Chicago or vicinity, who have attained distinction in scientific work, or who have rendered the Academy important service, may be elected Corresponding Members, in the manner above provided for the election of Honorary Members, and with the enjoyment of the same privileges except the right to vote and hold office. Upon becoming residents of Chicago or vicinity, Corresponding Members shall become Members, and shall pay the usual initiation fee and annual dues.

5. LIFE MEMBERS.—Life Members shall have paid each a sum of not less than one hundred dollars, or shall have contributed its equivalent by important service or valuable gifts, approved by the Board of Trustees. They shall be entitled to all the privileges of the Academy, and shall be exempt from the payment of annual dues.

6. FELLOWS.—Fellows shall have paid each a sum of not less than five hundred dollars, or shall have contributed its equivalent by important service or valuable gifts, approved by the Board of Trustees. They shall be entitled to all the privileges of the Academy, and shall be exempt from the payment of annual dues. They shall also have the right to appoint one successor in such fellowship.

7. PATRONS.—Patrons of the Academy shall have paid each a sum of not less than ten hundred dollars, or

shall have rendered to the Academy an equivalent in gifts or service, approved by the Board of Trustees, and shall be entitled to all privileges of the Academy and exemption from the payment of annual dues. They or their heirs, shall have the right, in perpetuity, to appoint their successors in such patronship.

8. CERTIFICATES.—A suitable certificate of membership, in each of the above grades, shall be issued to all persons accepted for the same. It shall be signed by the President and Secretary of the Academy, and shall bear the impress of the seal of the Academy.

ARTICLE IV.

OFFICERS AND THEIR ELECTION.

1. ELECTIVE OFFICERS.—The regular officers of the Academy shall be a President, a Vice-President, and a Secretary. They shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting which shall be held on the second Tuesday in January of each year, to serve for one year, and until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

2. TRUSTEES.—The Board of Trustees shall consist of ten members elected by ballot at the annual meetings, as follows: Two Trustees at each successive annual meeting, each to serve for the term of five years and until his successor is duly elected and qualified.

The President of the Academy and the President of the Board of Commissioners of Lincoln Park shall be *ex-officio* members of the Board of Trustees.

3. EXECUTIVE BOARD.—The Executive Board shall consist of the President of the Academy, the Vice-President, the Secretary, the President of the Board of Trustees, and six members to be elected by ballot at the annual meeting of the Academy on the second Tuesday in January, 1895. Two of said members to be elected for

a term of one year, two for two years, and two for three years, and thereafter two members shall be elected at each successive annual meeting, each to serve for the term of three years and until his successor is duly elected and qualified. The Secretary of the Academy shall be the Secretary of the Executive Board.

4. APPOINTIVE OFFICERS.—The appointive officers shall be a Treasurer, a Director, a Librarian, and a Curator; they shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees. At the discretion of the Board, one person may fill two of the above offices, and such offices may be rendered vacant by the Board of Trustees.

5. VACANCIES.—A vacancy occurring in any of the elective offices shall be filled at a regular meeting of the Academy, notice of such election having been inserted in the regular call for said meeting.

ARTICLE V.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

1. THE PRESIDENT shall preside at all meetings of the Academy. In case of his absence the Vice-President shall preside. If both are absent a President *pro tempore* may be elected without ballot.

2. THE SECRETARY shall have general charge of all minutes, records, transactions, and correspondence of the Academy, and shall report at each meeting such facts regarding the same as may from time to time be required. He shall notify all members and officers of their election, and all committees of their appointment; he shall keep a correct list of the names of all members and officers of the Academy, with the date of their election, resignation, or death, and shall send out notices of all meetings of the Academy. He shall be the Secretary of the Board of Trustees.

3. THE TREASURER shall have immediate charge of the collection and disbursement of the funds of the Academy in such manner as the Board of Trustees may direct, and shall give such surety as may be fixed by the Board.

4. THE DIRECTOR shall have general charge of the conduct of the Museum, Library, and other property of the Academy, and shall carry out the policy outlined by the Board of Trustees.

5. THE LIBRARIAN shall have immediate charge of the Library, and the CURATOR shall have charge of the Museum, subject to the supervision of the Director. In case of a vacancy in the office of Director the Curator shall be the ranking officer at the Academy's building.

ARTICLE VI.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

1. The title in and to the money and all other property belonging to The Chicago Academy of Sciences shall be vested in the Board of Trustees, and it shall have the exclusive right, power, and authority to hold, control, sell and convey the same, and shall have charge of the seal of the Academy.

2. All contracts involving pecuniary obligation, binding the Academy, shall be made by this Board, and no expense shall be incurred for any purpose without its authority. All such contracts shall be signed by the President of the Board of Trustees, shall be attested by its Secretary, and shall bear the seal of the Academy.

3. The Board of Trustees shall not make any transfer or disposition of the Academy's Library, or Museum, or other property belonging to it until such proposed action has been approved at a regular meeting of the Academy; *provided*, however, that this shall not be con-

strued to prevent additions to the Museum or Library by purchase or exchange.

4. This Board may decide upon and perfect its own plan of organization, which shall be in harmony with the Constitution of the Academy. A list of its officers and committees shall be reported to the Academy and made a part of its records, and any changes in the same shall be reported at the next regular meeting of the Academy.

5. Contributions to the treasury of the Academy for any special object, or for the use of any Section, shall be expended by the Board of Trustees in such a manner as may be desired by the contributor or contributors and for no other purpose.

6. The Board of Trustees shall render to the Academy, at its annual meeting, a report showing receipts and disbursements for the previous year, in such detail as to give a fair idea of the character of business transacted. Such report may be audited as the Academy may decide.

ARTICLE VII.

EXECUTIVE BOARD.

All motions relating to new business, except in cases of emergency requiring immediate action—shall be referred to this Board for its consideration, to be reported thereon before final action. This Board shall have charge of the scientific interests of the Academy. Five members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The meetings of this Board shall be held at such place and time as it shall elect.

ARTICLE VIII.

FEES AND DUES.

1. The initiation fee for Active Members shall be five dollars. The annual dues for Active Members shall be

five dollars, which shall be due and payable in advance at the date of the annual meetings of the Academy.

2. Active Members in arrears for dues shall not be entitled to vote, nor shall Active Members be entitled to vote until the initiation fee and dues for the current year are paid.

3. Persons elected to Active Membership during the last quarter of the Academic year shall, on payment of dues and fees as above provided, be entitled to a receipt covering the ensuing Academic year.

4. Any Active Member who shall default in the payment of the annual dues for the period of one year after the same has become due, shall forfeit all rights to Membership. The names of such delinquents shall be reported by the Secretary to the Executive Board, who may drop the name from the list of Members.

5. Any person who has forfeited his Membership, may, upon application within two years, be reinstated by the Executive Board upon payment of all past dues.

ARTICLE IX.

EXPULSION AND REMOVAL FROM OFFICE.

Any Member may be expelled, and any elective officer may be removed from office for cause, by a two-thirds vote of the Members present at a regular meeting, a fair opportunity having first been furnished the accused for a hearing in his defense before the Executive Board.

ARTICLE X.

WITHDRAWAL FROM MEMBERSHIP.

A Member in good standing, upon application, shall be furnished with a certificate of withdrawal, signed by the President and Secretary.

Such person having so resigned his membership, upon application within two years may be reinstated upon the payment of the annual dues of the then current year.

ARTICLE XI.

LIBRARY—MUSEUM.

1. The Library, the Museum, and scientific property of the Academy, shall be under the general care and supervision of the Board of Trustees, which Board may make such rules and regulations in regard thereto as by it may seem proper.

2. No books, specimens, or other property, shall be taken from the building of the Academy except by order of the Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE XII.

PUBLICATIONS.

1. The regular publications of the Academy shall be called "The Transactions of the Chicago Academy of Sciences." Other publications in the form of Bulletins and Special Reports, may be issued at the discretion of the Executive Board.

2. All papers and materials intended for publication in any of the published documents of the Academy, must be first submitted to the Executive Board and have its approval.

3. The publications shall be distributed under the direction of the President and Secretary, as follows:

(*a*) To all members of the Academy.

(*b*) In exchange for publications of kindred institutions.

(*c*) In exchange for Government and State Reports.

(*d*) To large Public and College Libraries in limited

number, at the discretion of the President, Secretary, and Librarian.

(*e*) To individuals in exchange for private publications of value to the Academy, and for valuable services rendered.

(*f*) In all other cases they shall be sold by the Secretary at the prices established by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE XIII.

SECTIONS.

1. Members in good standing, not less than eight in number, may apply to the Academy, at any regular meeting, for permission to form a Section for Special investigation in any branch of science. Such application, after being read, shall be referred to the Executive Board. If such application is approved by the Executive Board, the applicants may organize as a Section, and may hold meetings, and may keep any property belonging to the Section in the Academy building. Each Section shall bear the name of the science which it represents, thus: "The Section of —— of The Chicago Academy of Sciences."

2. Each Section is empowered to perfect its own organization, to elect a Chairman, a Recorder, and other officers, and to establish by-laws for its government, not inconsistent with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Academy, providing that no member of the Academy shall be barred from membership in such Sections as he or she may desire to join. Any Section may make special requirements for admittance to active membership in such Section, subject to the approval of the Academy. The records of each Section shall be a portion of the records of the Academy.

3. Papers read before any Section with a view to publication in the "Transactions," or other printed docu-

ments of the Academy, shall be subject to the same rules as other papers presented to the Academy as a whole.

ARTICLE XIV.

QUORUM.

Fifteen members having the right to vote shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at the meetings of the Academy.

ARTICLE XV.

SEAL.

The Corporate Seal of the Academy shall be as follows:

ARTICLE XVI.

AMENDMENTS.

This Constitution may be amended at a regular meeting of the Academy by a two-thirds vote of the members present; *provided*, notice of the substance of the proposed amendment has been given at a previous regular meeting.

BY-LAWS.

February 27, 1900.

ARTICLE I.

MEETINGS.

1. REGULAR MEETINGS. The regular meetings of the Academy shall be held on the fourth Tuesday of each month, the place and hour to be designated by the Secretary in the notices of the meeting.

2. THE ANNUAL MEETING shall be on the second Tuesday of January.

3. SPECIAL MEETINGS. Special meetings may be called by the President upon written request of not less than five members.

ARTICLE II.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Reading minutes of previous meeting.
2. Report of officers.
   (*a*) Secretary.
   (*b*) Curator.
   (*c*) Executive Board.
   (*d*) Treasurer (annual).
3. Reports of Special Committees.
4. Unfinished Business.
5. New Business.
6. Program of the evening.